CLAIMS

Therefore, having thus described the disclosure, at least the following is claimed:

1   1.   A method for managing memory, said method comprising the steps of:

2   receiving an indication of application state from a plurality of applications in

3   memory; and

4   determining which of the plurality of applications to effect removal from the

5   memory based on the received indication.

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1   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving an indication of application

2   state includes receiving at least one of an indication of a stateless state, an indication of a

3   stateful state with a state record, and an indication of a stateful state with no state record.

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1   3.   The method of claim 2, wherein the step of receiving an indication of a stateless

2   state includes receiving an indication of a state that indicates a user would perceive no

3   significant difference between a presentation associated with one of the plurality of

4   applications before and after removal from the memory and reloading to the memory.

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1   4.   The method of claim 2, wherein the step of receiving an indication of a stateful state

2   with a state record includes receiving an indication of a state that indicates a user would

3   perceive no significant difference between a presentation associated with one of the plurality

4   of applications before and after removal from the memory and reloading to the memory

5   because the state is saved in the state record.

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1   5.   The method of claim 4, further including the steps of effecting the removal of the

2   application with a stateful state with a state record and saving the state record.

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1   6.   The method of claim 5, further including, responsive to a user activating the

2   removed application, restoring the removed application with the saved state record.

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1   7.   The method of claim 2, wherein the step of receiving an indication of a stateful state

2   with no state record includes receiving an indication of a state that indicates a user would

3   perceive a difference between a presentation associated with one of the plurality of

4   applications before and after removal from the memory and reloading to the memory.

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1   8.   The method of claim 7, wherein the step of receiving an indication of a stateful state

2   with no state record includes receiving unload information, wherein the unload information

3   includes at least one of an unload information explanation and unload information choices.

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1   9.   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining includes the steps of

2   determining that an application with a stateless state is removed before an application with a

3   stateful state with a state record, and that a stateful state with a state record is removed

4   before a stateful state with no state record.

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1   10.   The method of claim 1, further including the steps of effecting the removal of an

2   application with a stateless state before the removal of an application with a stateful state

3   with a state record, and effecting the removal of an application with a stateful state with a

4   state record before the removal of an application with a stateful state with no state record.

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1   11.   The method of claim 1, further including the step of providing an explanation to a

2   user when an application to be removed from the memory includes a stateful state with no

3   state record, wherein the explanation informs the user the result of removing the application.

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1   12.   A method for managing memory, said method comprising the steps of:

2   receiving an indication that memory space is needed in memory;

3   receiving an indication of application state from a plurality of applications in the

4   memory, wherein the step of receiving an indication of application state includes receiving

5   at least one of an indication of a stateless state, an indication of a stateful state with a state

6   record, and an indication of a stateful state with no state record;

7   determining which of the plurality of applications to effect removal from the

8   memory based on the received indication, wherein the step of determining includes the steps

9   of determining that an application with a stateless state is removed before an application

10   with a stateful state with a state record, and that a stateful state with a state record is

11   removed before a stateful state with no state record; and

12   effecting the removal of an application with a stateless state before the removal of an

13   application with a stateful state with a state record, and effecting the removal of an

14   application with a stateful state with a state record before the removal of an application with

15   a stateful state with no state record.

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1   13.   A method for supporting the management of memory, said method comprising the

2   steps of:

3   receiving an indication of a user request for a service;

4   responsive to receiving the indication, receiving an indication that memory space

5   beyond that which is available is needed; and

6   providing an explanation that informs a user of the effect of removing an application

7   from memory to provide the requested service.

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1   14.   The method of claim 13, further including the step of providing the user with

2   choices that enable the user to determine whether to allow the provision of the requested

3   service.

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1   15.   The method of claim 13, further including the step of retaining the application in the

2   memory in response to the user selecting a choice associated with terminating the request for

3   the service.

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1   16.   The method of claim 13, further including the step of effecting the removal of the

2   application from the memory in response to the user selecting a choice associated with

3   proceeding with the request for the service.

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1   17.   The method of claim 13, wherein the effect of removing the application includes

2   losing the application state.

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1   18.   A system for managing memory, said system comprising:

2   a memory with logic; and

3   a processor configured with the logic to receive an indication of application state

4   from a plurality of applications in memory, wherein the processor is further configured with

5   the logic to determine which of the plurality of applications to effect removal from the

6   memory based on the received indication.

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1   19.   The system of claim 18, wherein an indication of application state includes an

2   indication of at least one of a stateless state, a stateful state with a state record, and a stateful

3   state with no state record.

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1   20.   The system of claim 19, wherein the stateless state includes a state where a user

2   would perceive no significant difference between a presentation associated with one of the

3   plurality of applications before removal from the memory and after reloading to the

4   memory.

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1   21.   The system of claim 19, wherein the stateful state with a state record includes a state

2   where a user would perceive no significant difference between a presentation associated

3   with one of the plurality of applications before removal from the memory and after

4   reloading to the memory because the state is saved in the state record.

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1   22.   The system of claim 21, wherein the processor is further configured with the logic to

2   effect the removal of the application with a stateful state with a state record and save the

3   state record.

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1   23.   The system of claim 22, wherein the processor is further configured with the logic

2   to, responsive to a user activating the removed application, restore the removed application

3   with the saved state record.

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1 24. The system of claim 19, wherein the stateful state with no state record includes a

2 state where a user would perceive a difference between a presentation associated with one of

3 the plurality of applications before removal from the memory and after reloading to the

4 memory.

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1 25. The system of claim 24, wherein the processor is further configured with the logic to

2 provide unload information, wherein the unload information includes at least one of an

3 unload information explanation and unload information choices.

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1 26. The system of claim 18, wherein the processor is further configured with the logic to

2 determine that an application with a stateless state is removed before an application with a

3 stateful state with a state record, and that a stateful state with a state record is removed

4 before a stateful state with no state record.

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1 27. The system of claim 18, wherein the processor is further configured with the logic to

2 effect the removal of an application with a stateless state before the removal of an

3 application with a stateful state with a state record, wherein the processor is further

4 configured with the logic to effect the removal of an application with a stateful state with a

5 state record before the removal of an application with a stateful state with no state record.

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1 28. The system of claim 18, wherein the processor is further configured with the logic to

2 provide an explanation to a user when an application to be removed from the memory

3 includes a stateful state with no state record, wherein the explanation informs the user the

4 result of removing the application.

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